

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XL.....NO. 42

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.—Washington street.—TWIN AXES AND CROWN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mrs. Rousby.

WOOD'S MUSEUM.—Thirteenth street.—DARING DICK AND THE LOST SHIP, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE.—No. 583 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

NEW YORK STADT THEATRE.—Bowery.—DIE DANKWANIEN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—No. 624 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

BROOKLYN PARK THEATRE.—COLONEL SING'S VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

ROMAN HIPPODROME.—Twenty-sixth street and Fourth avenue.—Afternoon and evening, at 2 and 8.

THEATRE COMIQUE.—No. 114 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—Twenty-ninth street and Broadway.—WOMEN OF THE DAY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Lewis, Miss Davenport, Mrs. Gilbert.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.—No. 211 Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Fourth street and Sixth avenue.—THE NEW MAC-DALEN, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Miss Carlotta Leclerc.

BRYANT'S OPERA HOUSE.—West Twenty-ninth street and Sixth avenue.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Dan Bryant.

GERMANIA THEATRE.—Fourth street.—THE PART DU DIABLE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Miss Mav.

PARK THEATRE.—Broadway.—A MOTHER'S PRAYER, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Edwin F. Thorne.

BOOTH'S THEATRE.—Corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—HENRY IV, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.—Broadway.—Corner of Twenty-ninth street.—NEGRO MINSTRELS, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M.

ROBINSON HALL.—Sixteenth street.—REGINE DULL CARE, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Maccho.

ACADEMY OF DESIGN.—Corner of Twenty-third street and Sixth avenue.—EXHIBITION OF WATER COLOR PAINTINGS. Open from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M., and from 6 P. M. to 10 P. M.

GLOBE THEATRE.—Broadway.—VARIETY, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:30 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.—Broadway.—THE SHAGBARK, at 8 P. M.; closes at 10:45 P. M. Mr. Boncourt.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1875.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be warmer and cloudy, with possibly rain or snow.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Gold was firm at 114½, foreign exchange steady, stocks depressed and money easy at last rates.

THINK OF THE POOR.—This is the time for charitable deeds.

FOR THE FIRST TIME in forty years the Hudson, opposite New York, was bridged over with ice. Is it possible that there can be two opinions as to the necessity of rapid transit?

THE WEATHER yesterday was more relishing; but the narrative of the dangers and hardships of crossing the ferries reads like a chapter from the adventures of Dr. Hayes and Dr. Kane in the Arctic regions.

EVERY CITIZEN should feel that he owes a kind thought and a still kinder deed to the suffering poor, upon whom this severe weather falls like a curse from heaven.

THE HORRORS of the middle passage of which we read in the old narratives of sea adventure are surpassed by the stories we print of the horrors of a journey to Hoboken and Brooklyn.

MR. HENRY BERGH calls our attention to a case of extreme wretchedness in Clinton street. It is hard to feel that such misery exists in a Christian land. Mr. Bergh has investigated this case and commends it as one worthy of practical benevolence. His appeal is worthy of attention, and will, we trust, not be heard in vain.

MR. TILTON spent yesterday on the "ragged edge" of Mr. Everts' cross-examination. There were no material facts developed, only a little more light upon the peculiar ways of Brooklyn Plymouth church civilization. These strange people seemed to be always kissing, quarrelling and carrying scandals. When will the sad, dreary, shameful business come to an end?

JUDGE DOVORHE yesterday, in denying a motion for alimony to a wife on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment by a husband, made some judicious remarks upon the tendency of married people to carry their family jars into court. The Judge reminded each snail that their feelings and comfort are secondary to the good of the children, and the future welfare of those who have a right to look to parents for example and instruction, and who in the absence of that "must fall to become useful members of society." If our quarrelsome married people would only think of the children what misery and scandal and trouble would be saved!

Another Reason Why President Grant Ought to Resign.

The resignation of a public officer is always presumed to be a voluntary act, and the reasons for such a step are founded on his private convenience or inclination or address themselves to his sense of public duty. We appeal to the latter class of motives. We prefer to present considerations which ought to have weight with a conscientious functionary who subordinates individual emolument to the public welfare. It is on this high ground that we again ask the attention of His Excellency to the benefits which would accrue to the country by his voluntary retirement to private life. Such a line of argument assumes that His Excellency does not belong to the vulgar tribe of office-loving politicians and traders in public trusts. It assumes that he is a patriot, a man of a high sense of political honor, a citizen who cherishes a grateful sense of the distinguished marks of esteem which have been bestowed on him by the country, and especially by the republican party. He owes it to the great but decaying party which has so highly honored and so staunchly supported him not to stand in the way of its success, when his retirement would bring Vice President Wilson to the head of the government and harmonize the party. If he admits that he is under any obligation to the country he should stand aside for a republican successor whose wise and conciliatory policy would give effect to that patriotic desire for "peace" expressed by General Grant in his letter accepting his first nomination. Instead of "peace" his administration has brought increasing elements of disturbance. The condition of the South, politically, economically and socially, compares unfavorably with its condition at the date of his first inauguration. He has brought the business of the country to stagnation, the national Treasury to the verge of bankruptcy, and has reduced his party from a victorious and seemingly invincible majority to a humiliating minority in most of the States that have recently held elections. The industries of the country, the tranquillity of the South, the condition of the treasury and the prospects of the republican party are so different from what was expected from President Grant that even he must perceive that his administration is a political failure; and by the sound rule of judging a tree by its fruits he ought to see that his policy has been a stupendous mistake.

All this was apparent when the HERALD began to urge upon him the duty of resigning. His Excellency every day adds new reasons in support of our suggestion. The public might almost suppose he had a secret understanding with us for securing a unanimous endorsement of our recommendation and making it universally popular. After his military interference with the Louisiana Legislature, for which he partially apologized in a Message to Congress, he forthwith sent troops to Vicksburg to decide a question which belonged to the State courts, and now, in equal degree of law, he has proclaimed Brooks Governor of Arkansas and signified his intention to install him in office by military force, unless Congress positively forbids him. The effect of his astonishing Arkansas Message on public opinion may be seen in the copious extracts which we give to-day from the press of both political parties. The Troy Times, one of the most loyal of republican organs, says, "the President has erred." The Springfield Republican says, "no wonder that such astute politicians as Henry Wilson are wringing their hands." The Utica Herald, the leading republican organ of Central New York, edited by a distinguished republican member of Congress, says, "we cannot conceal our surprise that the President should have felt called upon to issue this Message." The republican Boston Transcript thinks "it is entirely inadmissible to reopen the Arkansas troubles." The Philadelphia Telegraph, also republican, says, "it is most devoutly to be hoped that Congress will turn a deaf ear to this Message; that it will not so obstinately persist in driving the republican party to ruin as to yield a moment's consideration to its peremptory instructions." Nobody believes that such language, or anything resembling it, would ever be used by republican journals toward Mr. Wilson if he were President. No republican believes that Mr. Wilson could make mistakes calling for such strong expressions of censure and alarm by journals that advocated his election. All these extracts are, therefore, a virtual, though not a formal, endorsement of the HERALD's advice to His Excellency to give place to a republican successor who enjoys the confidence of the party. The republican journals do not desire the continuance in office of a President whose conduct and policy they are ashamed to advocate and cannot defend.

The strange Arkansas Message, unaccountable even from Grant, must intensify the republican regret that Mr. Wilson is not at the head of the government. His Excellency seems to have lost his memory, besides abdicating all the claims he ever had to common sense. It is inconceivable that any man who had not hopelessly lost his wits, it is astonishing that any man outside the walls of an asylum for lunatics, could have sent to Congress a Message which so condemns and repudiates his own recent policy respecting affairs in Arkansas. In 1872 Brooks ran on the Greeley ticket and Baxter on the Grant ticket. The Grant party in that State counted Brooks out and Baxter in, with the President's implied sanction. Brooks has since changed front and become a supporter of Grant, and, for no other reason known to the public, His Excellency has also changed front, and maintains at this late day that Brooks was elected. Why did he not make this discovery more than two years ago, when the returns of that election were as accessible as they are at present? It is scandalous for the President to change his opinion on such a point for no other discernible reason than that the Greeley candidate, who was counted out, has turned his political coat and become a supporter of Grant. Did this whiffling office-seeker's desertion of his supporters change the number of votes cast for him in 1872? There is a still stronger reason, if a stronger be possible, why the President should not have made this late recognition of Brooks. No longer ago than last May General Grant issued a proclamation, in which he asserted the title of Baxter and denied that of Brooks to the Governorship. The argument put forth in that proclamation was sound and

satisfied the country. That argument was founded on a provision of the Arkansas constitution which makes the General Assembly of the State the final judge of the election of State officers, and on the fact that this tribunal of last resort in such cases had declared that Baxter was legally elected. Such a decision foreclosed controversy on that subject, and the President was so advised by his Attorney General and made the opinion of that officer the basis of his proclamation. In that document, which all political parties approved at the time, the President used this language:—"Whereas said Elisha Baxter has been declared duly elected by the General Assembly of said State, as provided in the constitution thereof, and has for a long period been exercising the functions of said office, into which he was inducted according to the constitution and laws of said State, and ought by its citizens to be considered the lawful Executive thereof." It is amazing that, after such a proclamation, so recent and so well remembered, the President should publicly "turn his back upon himself" and declare that Brooks is the rightful Governor. What has wrought this wonderful change? How did the President acquire authority to review and reverse the decision of the General Assembly, which the State constitution makes the final judge in such cases? Even if the new Arkansas constitution is void, as the President contends, he bound himself, by his May proclamation, to support Baxter and repudiate Brooks. The recent Message, compared with the May proclamation, presents the most remarkable instance of self-stultification to be found in the official records of any government. It cannot be doubted that the country, irrespective of party differences, would feel a sense of relief on the resignation of such a President, nor that the republicans would hail with acclamation the substitution for a President who so wantonly defies public opinion of a true, tried and judicious member of their own party like Vice President Wilson.

The Pavement on Fifth Avenue.

We congratulate the people that there is a prospect that the Legislature will pass the bill authorizing the paving of Fifth avenue. The necessity for such a work has long been apparent. Fifth avenue is not an ordinary street, but a public highway, as much a part of the Central Park as the Avenue of the Champs Elysees is a part of the Bois de Boulogne. It is the pleasure ground of rich and poor, and the city is as much interested in keeping it in good repair as the Croton Water Aqueduct. But it is most important that there should be no such blunder in this as was made in the old Tammany times. We do not want soft, crumbling pavements of wood or tar or chemical mixtures or asphalt. Experience shows that in our climate, with the extremes of heat and cold, the hard winters and the pitiless summers, we cannot make a successful artificial pavement. In Paris, where asphalt and similar preparations are used, the climate is milder, and the pavement is useful and pleasant, free from noise and dust. But even in Paris it needs constant nursing and the vigilant supervision of the authorities to keep it from crumbling. If we had any instance of a successful asphalt or composition pavement in New York that had stood all seasons we could understand why it might be used in the reconstruction of Fifth avenue. But we know of no such instance. We do know of miles—we think we may say hundreds of miles—of pavements in New York and other cities, but in New York especially, that are a disgrace and a wanton expenditure of money. The little bit of asphalt pavement around the Worth monument has been cited as an evidence of what can be done with this composition. But we all know that this is not a success, and that it has only been kept in reasonable order by the most constant watching and tender care.

We want a road that will last a century—something like the old Roman roads whose remains, after the lapse of ages, excite the wonder of the traveler. Nature has done far better for us than science in providing material. We do not want chemical experiments, but solid, genuine, lasting roads. We do not build for to-day or to-morrow; to suit this interest or the other; to give a job to owners of ingenious patents, who would like to test their theories at the expense of the treasury. We want the best road that science and energy can build. We know of nothing better than the old-fashioned macadamized road. Experience shows that this road answers better than others the severe strain of our modern life. It is not an experiment, but a fact. Why waste money and lose time compounding tar and mixing gravel and asphalt and massing blocks of wood, which will crumble and decay in a short time, when we know that the macadamized road has every element of durability, comfort and usefulness? Any Albany legislation that proposes to devote Fifth avenue to another series of chemical experiments will be an outrage upon the people, and a renewal of that deplorable system of corrupt dealing with the public which we thought had gone out forever in the fall of the Tammany Ring.

Let our noble matrons and maidens feel that their immediate duty is to look into some of the scenes of misery with which our city abounds, and alleviate them.

LENT.—The fasting season began yesterday, and Ash Wednesday was generally observed in the Roman Catholic and Protestant Episcopal churches. The season is one which cannot be too faithfully celebrated; for, says an old writer, "if we purpose to mend our faults it is not sufficient barely to confess them at all adventure, but we must let our confession lie in steep in the water of meditation." All men are better for this annual fast, since it enables them to put some curb upon their appetites and desires apart from the Christian discipline of the season.

THE PROSPERITY OF FRANCE.—Recent tables published by the French government show that the exports and imports of 1874 amounted to over \$1,500,000,000, exceeding any former year, and showing an increase over 1873 of \$50,000,000, and over 1868, when the Empire was in the tide of prosperity, of nearly \$230,000,000. During the last year the exports were more than \$2,000,000 in excess of the imports. This shows that there is marvellous prosperity in France, that the war has not diminished the thrift, industry and enterprize of that extraordinary people.

The Mayor's Power of Removal.

In accordance with our custom of introducing lawyers of high standing to discuss in our columns the legal aspects of such political questions as turn upon points of law as well as on considerations of public expediency, the HERALD prints this morning a very able communication relating to the authority of the Governor of the State in the removal of the heads of municipal departments. Every lawyer who reads it will perceive that it is by no ordinary hand, and must concede that its reasoning and copious citations of pertinent authorities corroborate our statement that it is from an eminent member of the profession. It is a document which deserves the deliberate perusal of Governor Tilden, who will find in it matter which it would cost him and his legal advisers a great deal of research to bring together and arrange, if they should undertake this investigation without our learned correspondent's assistance.

It is the purpose of the communication to define, with legal accuracy, the extent and limitations of the Governor's authority in the removal of city officers by the Mayor. It shows by a careful examination of the provisions of the charter, and by numerous judicial decisions on analogous subjects, that the function of the Governor and the function of the Mayor in cases of removal are quite distinct and essentially different. The Mayor and the Governor do not, by any means, possess a joint and co-ordinate authority in questions of removal. According to the charter, removals are acts of the Mayor and not acts of the Governor. The Governor is empowered to decide whether the reasons stated by the Mayor to justify a removal are sufficient, but it is no part of his function to inquire into the facts by which the Mayor's charges against an officer are supported. The charter does not provide for two successive investigations of the facts, one by the Mayor and the other by the Governor, but only for one investigation of the facts by the Mayor alone. The charter does not give the inculpatory officer a right to be heard in his defence before the Governor, but only before the Mayor. The Mayor is not required to make a transcript of the evidence and forward it to the Governor, but only to forward to him a written statement of his reasons. Whether these reasons are supported by proofs it belongs to the Mayor alone to decide, and the only duty of the Governor is to judge whether the charges are a valid cause of removal. For the sake of illustration, let us suppose that the charge against the head of a department is a willful violation of law. The Mayor examines witnesses, takes other evidence and finds that the charge is sustained by the facts. He thereupon communicates the charges to the Governor, whose sole duty is to decide whether those charges, which he must take to be true, are an adequate reason for removing the officer. The charter gives him no authority to institute a new investigation, give the defendant a new hearing, go over the facts a second time and take testimony, as he would be bound to do if he were clothed with the power of removal. The charter provides for but one investigation, and that is an investigation by the Mayor. It entitles the accused officer to but one hearing, and that is a hearing before the Mayor. It makes the Mayor the sole judge of the evidence by which the charges are supported, requiring him to communicate merely the charges, but not the evidence, to the Governor. The Governor must act on the Mayor's reasons, and he has no legal authority to review the evidence in support of them. This is made so clear by our correspondent that we suppose no lawyer who reads and weighs his cogent communication can entertain any doubt on the subject. And the law on this point conforms to common sense. It is fit that the investigation be conducted on the spot, where oral testimony can be taken without putting witnesses to inconvenience, and by an officer whose knowledge of persons and acquaintance with city affairs qualify him to judge of its credibility and its bearing. It would be absurd to call the same witnesses to Albany to repeat their testimony. The Governor will, nine times out of ten, be a citizen of some other part of the State, and must be very inferior to the Mayor as a judge of facts connected with the city government and of the credibility of local witnesses. He may be an equally good judge of the gravity of the charges, but not of the evidence by which their truth is established. But be this as it may, it is certain that there is no provision of law which either permits the Governor to re-examine the facts or requires the Mayor to forward to him anything but the charges, apart from their evidence. The only point for the Governor to decide is whether the charges, supposing them to be true, justify the removal. The charter requires the Mayor not only to communicate a written statement of his reasons to the Governor, but also, on the demand of the removed officer, to "make in writing a public statement of his reasons therefor." Precisely the same language is used in both requirements; but nobody can suppose that it binds the Mayor to lay the evidence before the public, and if not before the public, then, by strict logic, not before the Governor. We refer our readers to the letter in other columns for a full statement of the argument.

WE REGRET that the compromise in Louisiana between the conservatives and the existing State government seems to have fallen through. This is a painful fact. We hoped that there might be wisdom and patriotism enough to end these unfortunate complications; but it is evidently difficult to suit all parties.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.—We devote considerable space this morning to a record of the observations made by our astronomers of the transit of Venus. Too much praise cannot be given to those who managed our American expedition for the thorough and honest manner in which they did their work. We are proud to think that America has gained a leading position in this matter, and that in conception and organization our system was so much better than that of any European nation. As our narrative shows, while the Europeans followed obsolete and imperfect methods of inquiry, America took a new path and achieved a splendid success. This we believe to be largely due to the genius and energy of Professor Henry Draper, who has studied astronomical photography for many years, having constructed the largest telescope in the country. Our report will be

found to be a valuable contribution to astronomy.

The Speech of John Bright.

The eloquent speech of Mr. Bright, delivered at Birmingham on the 25th of January and elsewhere printed, possesses more than usual significance in the present crisis of English affairs. We are rejoiced to see this illustrious and venerated statesman, whose name is honored all over the world, so well restored to health that he can take an active part in public affairs. Mr. Bright devotes his address to the relations of the Church of England to the Crown. He shows the misfortune of such an alliance and its injury to the cause of true religion. He says that the Church holds the position now it did under Elizabeth, and that it is necessarily, from the march of civilization, a false position. A reform in this regard as the next problem to be solved by the liberal party—a problem more important to the prosperity of the Empire than free trade or an extension of the franchise.

Mr. Bright marks out a line of new departure for the liberals. He sees that the time is coming when England—to use the words of Mr. Disraeli—must consider "burning questions." These questions have long been threatened. Lord Palmerston, by his marvellous tact, Lord Derby, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Disraeli have postponed their consideration, ignored them and held their parties together by personal power or political genius. But this putting off from to-day until to-morrow cannot pass forever, even in politics. The day must come. Mr. Gladstone is gone. Disraeli—a much older man and not in the best of health—must soon go. The Tory party will pass into the hands either of Lord Derby or Lord Salisbury. The new issues that will arise will affect the franchise, the aristocracy, the Church and the Crown. Mr. Bright, the most eloquent man in the liberal party, now demands the disestablishment of the English Church. This is certainly a "burning issue." Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet has had the effect of nitro-glycerine upon the old conservative politics of England. The country is more excited over the allegiance to the Papacy than it has been at any time since the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The speech of Mr. Bright is pregnant with meaning, and marks, we think, a new departure in English politics and the advent of a new political generation, big with momentous issues and events.

Rapid Transit.

Nature seems to have taken up the question of rapid transit. There could be no more eloquent arguments in favor of rapid communication between New York and its suburbs than the scenes of the last few days. We have had some very cold days—what we have had in the past and may again have in the future. The direct effect is to practically close all communication between New York and the cities lying on the banks of the Hudson and the East River. Yesterday, for instance, travel was practically interrupted between New York and Brooklyn. It would be hard to picture the amount of discomfort, embarrassment, business trouble and personal misery that ensued. Brooklyn is a part of New York. There is scarcely one of its citizens not directly connected with us in the way of business and active employment. Yet, by the mere falling of the thermometer a few degrees below the average winter temperature, the people of Brooklyn are suddenly removed from all communication with their places of business. Those who crossed the river did so under circumstances of personal suffering and discomfort of a most disagreeable character—long waiting in the bleak ferry houses, the dismal journey through the tumbling ice, overcrowding, cold and every possible disadvantage. There can be but two solutions. One is a system of rapid transit that will enable New York to retain its citizens within its limits and permit them to dwell within certain and rapid communication, unmolested by ice, snow, cold or floods. The other is the completion of the bridge, only another phase of rapid transit.

A Question of History.

Far be it from us to interfere with the historical, literary, philosophical and metaphysical discussions between Mr. Everts and Mr. Tilton. One point might as well be made clear. In the cross-examination of Mr. Tilton on Tuesday Mr. Everts drew out the fact that the plaintiff had walked in a procession "to do honor to the Commune," especially the memory of Rosell, who, according to Mr. Everts, "was put to death by judgment for having executed the Chief Justice of France and the Archbishop of Paris." Mr. Tilton responded that the procession was "in honor of the revered memory of Rosell, whom the French government put to death, and whose name ought to live to be the synonyme of liberty." Furthermore, Mr. Tilton informed Mr. Everts that Rosell was "a sublime man," and that "the memory of young Rosell is sweet and clean," and that he honored him "before all mankind."

The truth is that Rosell took no part in the execution of the hostages, nor was he put to death for that act. He left the Commune some time before its fall and the massacre. He was executed for having, as an officer of the French army, thrown up his commission and taken up arms against the government. His offence and its punishment were purely military. But for this Mr. Thiers would have pardoned Rosell. He feared the effect on the army. Nor do we think that Mr. Tilton exactly appreciates Rosell's character when he speaks of him as "a synonyme of liberty," and "a sublime man." Rosell, in his defence, took pains to separate himself from the theories and rhapsodies of the Commune, and from those sincere, fanatical idealists who believed in Communism as a principle, such, for instance, as Delecluze. He avowed that his only purpose in joining the Commune was to arouse a sentiment of antagonism to the German army then investing Paris. He believed there had been a premature surrender to Prussia; that France had not properly used her resources in resisting the enemy, and that the Commune movement could be used to revive the warlike spirit of France and to renew the war. Mr. Everts does the memory of Rosell injustice when he identifies him either with the extreme theorists of the Commune or with the despairing, maddened fanatics who set fire to the palaces and shot the Archbishop. Mr. Tilton also does the

true leaders of the Commune injustice when he places Rosell among their number as "a sublime man," or in any way "a synonyme of liberty." He was a gallant, erratic, not very wise young officer, who was whirled into the Commune, neither leading it nor led by it. His fate excited general sympathy because of his youth and his courage. So far from being a leader of the Commune he was only an incident in its extraordinary career, deserving neither the censure of Everts nor the praise of Tilton.

The Independence of the Senate.

One of our contemporaries makes an interesting narrative in reference to the recent election of a Senator in Wisconsin. According to this journal the credit of the defeat of Mr. Carpenter must be attributed to the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company. There is an interview also with Mr. Russell Sage, Vice President of this company. Mr. Sage makes a remarkable statement, which, if true, should be immediately investigated. He says it is true "that his company had contributed largely to the defeat of Mr. Carpenter." "The special reason," he explains, "for the opposition of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company was on account of Mr. Carpenter's position in regard to the railroad agitation in Wisconsin." The statement of Mr. Sage is confirmed by Mr. Carpenter, who made a speech in Milwaukee on Tuesday evening attributing his defeat "largely to the opposition of the railroads." We have heard, from time to time, of the influence of railroads upon legislation and the elective franchise. There has been some anxiety in the West as to the character and extent of this influence. This is the first time, so far as we know, that an officer of a railroad company publicly boasts that his corporation has made any such use of its power.

If the election in Wisconsin was the work of the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, as Mr. Sage, the Vice President, avers, the matter should be examined by the Senate. There can be no clearer proposition than this—that, where large corporations, who owe their existence to the beneficence of Commonwealths like Wisconsin, attempt to interfere with legislation, to defeat Senators and members for not obeying their will, that we are no longer under a free government. The defeat of Senator Carpenter is a small matter compared with the principle which is here involved. We certainly think that the Senate owes it to its dignity to summon Mr. Sage to Washington and ask him in what special manner his railroad company "contributed largely to the defeat" of any candidate for a seat in that body. There can be no higher question of privilege.

THE CENTENNIAL.—We print a most interesting letter this morning from Philadelphia in reference to the Centennial. The work goes bravely on, with an amount of earnest and quiet enthusiasm on the part of our Philadelphia friends quite beautiful to see. The Catholic Total Abstinence Society propose to build a colossal fountain, with statues of Archbishop Carroll, Father Mathew, Commodore Barry and Charles Carroll, of Carrollton. Why not General Montgomery? The Germans will send a statue of Humboldt; the Jews of Philadelphia will build one commemorating religious freedom; the Italians will send a statue of Columbus, while Miss Hosmer will contribute her marble work of Emancipation.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Rev. George H. Clark, of Hartford, is staying at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.
Professor R. Silliman, of Yale College, is stopping at the Windsor Hotel.
Mr. Harvey G. Eastman, of Poughkeepsie, is stopping at the Albemarle Hotel.
Colonel H. S. McComb, of Credit Mobilier notoriety, is registered at the St. James Hotel.
Commodore Theodore P. Greene, United States Navy, is quartered at the Grand Central Hotel.
Mr. Handy-side Tapp is a British official at Shanghai, but destiny intended him for the bar.
Postmaster General Marshall Jewell and Comptroller Nelson K. Hopkins left this city last evening for Washington.
Mr. Franklin B. Gowen, President of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, is at the Brevoort House.
Mr. John Mitchell is announced as a candidate for member of Parliament for Tipperary in the event of Colonel White retiring.
Mr. J. H. Devereux, President of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway Company, has taken up his residence at the Windsor Hotel.
Bishop Vaughan, of Salford, England, is the guest of the Paulist Fathers, West Fifty-ninth street. He will sail for England on Saturday next.
The Vienna *Wehrzeitung*, which has affiliations with the Austrian Ministry, hopes that "the sword of Great Britain will soon again be laid in the balance of Europe."
Mr. Samuel Hooper lies dangerously ill of pneumonia at his residence in Washington. His attack was sudden and it has lasted but three or four days. He was not improved last evening.
Sir Samuel Hayes, of England, who has been on a hunting excursion in the Far West for several months past, arrived in this city yesterday, from Colorado, and is at the Gilsey House.
The President of the United States Her Majesty's government is prepared to grant \$5,000 to secure observations of the total eclipse of the sun in April next.
Charles Darcoux, the dramatic critic, estimates that the nightly attendance at the forty-two theatres and places of amusement in Paris is about 58,000, provided they are filled to their capacity.
Zach Chandler was first elected Senator seven years ago, and on that occasion Ledyard, the son-in-law of General Cass and then a member of the Assembly, voted for Judge Christianity, who now displaces the famous Zachariah.
An article printed by the ultramontane organ *Germania*, of Berlin, explanatory of the motives which may prompt future attempts upon the life of Prince Bismarck, has created some sensation in Germany, and is violently assailed by the semi-official press.
In the fifth section of the first article of our State constitution it is written that "excessive bail shall not be required;" and yet it is reported that Judge Donohue recently required bail of \$100,000 in a case in which the sum in dispute was \$7,000. Is this true? And if it is true did the Judge consider the constitution of any consequence.
The widow of the late Commander Cushing yesterday sent by express to Alired Iverson, of Georgia, a sword that was presented to that gentleman by citizens of Columbia, Ga., when he was a lieutenant of United States cavalry before the rebellion, but which had been captured during that conflict by Commander Cushing in one of his raids.
The proposed Telegraph Conference at St. Petersburg will probably meet in May or June. The principal proposal designated for discussion is the suggestion that in future the tariff shall be framed not as at present, according to the number of words, but of single letters contained in a message, as Continental companies find the scope given to the use of compound words largely abused.